



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPRINGFIELD, WEST PLAINS MEN INDICTED FOR ILLEGAL FIREARMS

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Springfield, Mo., man and a West Plains, Mo., man were indicted by a federal grand jury today, in separate and unrelated cases, for illegally possessing firearms.

* **Louie Eugene Aragon**, 29, of Springfield, was charged with being a felon and an unlawful user of a controlled substance in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Jefferson City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Aragon** was in possession of a Heritage Arms .22-caliber revolver with ammunition, a Charles Daly 12-gauge shotgun and a Mauser 30-06 rifle on June 11, 2005, in Webster County, Mo. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who is an unlawful user of a controlled substance, or who has been convicted of a felony, to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Aragon** has 2003 criminal felony convictions for two counts of burglary, two counts of stealing and one count of property damage in Greene County, Mo., 2002 criminal felony convictions for burglary and tampering in Greene County, Mo., and a 2000 criminal felony conviction for possession of a controlled substance.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael O. Hendrickson. It was investigated by the Webster County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **James Michael Alsup**, 48, of West Plains, was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Jefferson City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Alsup** was in possession of a Stevens 12-gauge shotgun, a Marlin Glenfield .22-caliber rifle with ammunition, and a Harrington & Richards 20-

gauge shotgun on April 24, 2004, in Howell County, Mo. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Alsup** has a 1998 criminal felony conviction for assault in Howell County.; 1985 criminal felony convictions for theft of property and criminal mischief in Izard County, Ark.; a 1980 criminal felony conviction for theft in Fulton County, Ark.; and 1975 criminal felony convictions for burglary and larceny in Howell County.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael O. Hendrickson. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the West Plains, Mo., Police Department.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictments are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow